

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1). (currently amended) A device for anastomosis, wherein the device comprises a tubular connecting element (2) having a first end (2a) and a second end (2b) and bears a plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of at least one of the first end (2a) and the second end (2b) and is used in combination with a prosthetic element (10) to create a joint between a prosthetic element and a blood vessel stent.

2). (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the slender elements (3) are arranged in proximity of the first end (2a) and exhibit a free end (3a) facing towards the second end (2b).

3). (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device exhibits a plurality of slender elements (3) projecting externally in proximity of the first end (2a) and a plurality of slender elements (3) projecting externally in proximity of the second end (2b).

4). (original) The device of claim 3, wherein the slender elements (3) exhibit a free end (3a) facing towards an opposite end from an end at which the slender elements (3) are arranged.

5). (currently amended) The device of claim 2, wherein the tubular connecting element (2) exhibits a longitudinal profile section which is truncoconical and a transversal section which decreases in a direction going from the first end (2a) to the second end (2b).

6). (original) The device of claim 5, wherein the slender elements (3) are arranged along a first circumference of the device which is proximal to the first end (2a) and along a second circumference thereof which is proximal to the second end (2b).

7). (original) The device of claim 6, wherein the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the first end (2a) are reciprocally distanced at a smaller step with respect to a step at which the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the second end (2b) are reciprocally distanced.

8). (original) The device of claim 7, wherein the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the first end (2a)

are longer and more prominent than the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the second end (2b).

9). (currently amended) The device of claim 4, wherein the tubular connecting element (2) exhibits a longitudinal profile section which is truncoconical and a transversal section which decreases in a direction going from the first end (2a) to the second end (2b).

10. (currently amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising a suture, wherein the suture may be tightened around the tubular connecting element and wherein the tightening functions to puncture a blood vessel with the plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements.

11. (currently amended) A device for anastomosis, comprising:

a tubular connecting element comprising a first end, a second end, and a plurality of outwardly projecting slender elements arranged proximity to at least one of the ends; and

a tubular prosthesis comprising biocompatible material, wherein the tubular prosthesis is inserted into the tubular connecting element and folded around at least an end of the tubular connecting element with outwardly projecting slender

elements so that the outwardly-projecting slender elements puncture the tubular prosthesis.

12. (currently amended) The device of claim 10 further comprising a suture, wherein the suture may be tightened around the tubular connecting element and wherein the tightening functions to puncture a blood vessel with the plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements.

13. (currently amended) A device for anastomosis, comprising:

a tubular connecting element (2) having a first end (2a) and a second end (2b), each end bearing a plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of at least one of the first end (2a) and the second end (2b);

a tubular prosthesis (10) of biocompatible material inserted into the tubular connecting element (2) and folded around at least one end of the tubular connecting element with the outwardly-projecting slender elements puncturing the tubular prosthesis; and

a suture tightened around the tubular connecting element and a blood vessel punctured by the outwardly-projecting slender elements.

14. (new) The device of claim 1, wherein,

the prosthetic element (10) is passed into the tubular connecting element 2 with a segment of the prosthetic element (10) externally folded over the first end (2a),

the segment of prosthetic element (10) folded over the first end (2a) is fastened on the slender elements (3) with the slender elements (3) penetrate completely in and through a wall of the prosthetic element (10), exiting from the wall by free ends (3a) of the slender elements (3),

the prosthetic element (10) is not circumferentially elastic, and

the prosthetic element (10) exhibits a free end projecting from the second end (2b) of the tubular connecting element (2), the free end of the prosthetic element (10) for connection to an aortic prosthesis.